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R E P O R T

to the

Haltwhistle Rural District Council

For the Year 1957

by

J. M. McEWAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

STAFF :

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*To the Chairman and Councillors of the Rural District Council
of Haltwhistle :*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of Haltwhistle Rural District during 1957.

The social conditions of the area show no material changes. New light industry would be very welcome, particularly if the major industry of coal mining should not continue at its present level, but there is no immediate prospect of such development. Haltwhistle will benefit from the rocket-testing station at Spadeadam in that, after further consideration, forty houses for workers are to be built in the town.

As in most rural districts, the population continues to fall very slowly. The problem of maintaining existing population in a rural district is a very real one, with improved amenities and communications as the most obvious solution. The birth rate is slightly lower and the death rate slightly higher than the average figure for England and Wales. There were again three deaths in infancy, all in the first week of life and regarded as non-preventable. Cancer accounted for 18 deaths, and lung cancer for 4.

There was a large increase in the notifications of infectious disease, almost all due to measles, which was prevalent throughout the country. Whooping Cough also was common, there being 40 cases, but it is now relatively mild, and as in the case of measles, its complications are now successfully treated. Scarlet Fever continues to occur in small numbers and sporadically, in a mild form. It will be noted that no death was attributable to these common infections. There were no deaths from tuberculosis and only two notifications. Again there was no case of poliomyelitis, and as immunisation was begun during 1957 and the acceptance rate is high, it is to be hoped that it will follow diphtheria as an uncommon disease. The approach of epidemic influenza was viewed with concern, but though the disease was widespread in the autumn it was of a mild nature compared with previous similar outbreaks. In the Haltwhistle Rural District however pneumonia was quite a frequent complication and influenza caused three deaths.

The three main problems in this district continue to be housing, water supply and sewage disposal. The building of houses is virtually at a stand still and all slum clearance property in the area has now been condemned, the tenants being rehoused. These are the last houses for which full subsidy is payable, and the Council policy is to build only houses which attract a subsidy. At the same time there remain 166 applicants for re-housing, many living under unsatisfactory conditions.

Negotiations proceeded during the year with a view to handing over the water undertaking to the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and agreement has been reached. There will then be an abundant supply of water coming into the district, and the main centres of population will have their needs fully met. There will still remain smaller communities, some of which cannot easily be supplied, and cost will no doubt be the deciding factor in schemes to supply their needs.

Once water is widely available in quantity, the needs for new or extended sewage treatment works will increase. The Council have plans for a number of these schemes, but the cost will be very considerable, even with grant aid.

In concluding this report I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued interest and support. I am grateful to the other Officers for their co-operation and to the Public Health Inspector for his efficient work during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. McEWAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area of the Haltwhistle Rural District is 96,333 acres. The only town is Haltwhistle, the other centres of population being villages.

The estimated population for 1957 is 7,320, a decrease of 30 on the 1956 figure. The tendency appears to be a slow fall in population.

The number of inhabited houses on 31st December, 1957, was 2,433.

The rateable value is £52,531.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £205.

The following list of persons employed in various industries is virtually unchanged compared with 1955.

					<i>Males and Females over 15 years of age.</i>
Coal Mining	..	..	..	..	761
Paint, Varnish and Chemicals				..	402
Distributive Trades	..	..		..	219
Agriculture	..	..	..	..	228
Professional Services	..	..		..	197
National and Local Government				..	159
Quarrying	..	..	..	..	97
Building Trades	..	..	..	..	201
Transport and Garages			..	..	142
Pipe and Brick Works	..	..		..	50
Bakeries	..	..	..	..	51
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	163

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The population of the Haltwhistle Rural District, estimated at 30th June, 1957, was 7,320. This is a decrease of 30 compared with 1956.

Birth Rate

At 15.20 live births per 1,000 population, the birth rate shows an increase of .93 on the figure for 1956. It compares with 16.1 per 1,000 population for all England and Wales.

Of a total of 105 live births, 5 were illegitimate. There were 3 still-births, compared with 2 in 1956.

Infantile Mortality

There were three deaths of infants under one year, all occurring in the first four weeks of life. The infant mortality rate is 28.57 per 1,000 live births, the rate for England and Wales being 23.0 per 1,000.

General Death Rate

A total of 95 deaths occurred during 1957 a decrease of 4 on 1956. When the comparability factor is applied, the death rate is 12.72 per 1,000 population. The figure for all England and Wales is 11.5 per 1,000 population.

18 deaths were due to Cancer, compared with 19 in 1956.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Measles

There were 199 cases of Measles in contrast to 15 in 1956.

Whooping Cough

40 cases were notified during 1957 compared with 9 in 1956.

Scarlet Fever

Seven cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during 1957, compared with 29 in 1956.

Tuberculosis

Two cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified as against 3 in 1956. There were no deaths from Tuberculosis.

Poliomyelitis

No cases of Poliomyelitis occurred during 1957 compared, with none in 1956, 5 in 1955, 6 in 1953 and 9 in 1952.

Acute Pneumonia

Eleven cases of Acute Pneumonia were notified during 1957, compared with none in 1956.

HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

- (a) HALTWHISTLE WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.
 Surgeon : Mr. C. I. Raeburn, F.R.C.S. (Ed.)
 Gynaecologist : Mr. Linton Snaith, F.R.C.S.
 Physician : Mr. G. J. Murray, M.D.
 Matron : Miss E. R. Gibson, O.B.E.

This hospital, which includes a modern Maternity Wing, is under the Management of the Hexham and District Management Committee.

The Local House Committee—Chairman, Mr. G. E. Dent, meets on the first Friday of alternate months.

- (i) *X-Ray Department.*
 X-Ray examinations are carried out Mondays and Fridays at 1-30 p.m.
 Consultant Radiologist :—Dr. Walker.
- (ii) *Gynaecologist Out-Patient Department.*
 Second Friday every month at 2 p.m.
- (iii) *Surgical Out-Patient Department.*
 Wednesdays, 12 noon.
- (iv) *Medical Out-Patient Department.*
 Alternate Tuesdays, 2-30 p.m.

(b) HEXHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Accommodation at this hospital is available for patients from this district. A number of medical cases for detailed investigation and some major emergency surgical cases are referred to this hospital.

Patients for out-patient Physiotherapy are treated at this hospital.

(c) CARLISLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

WALKERGATE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

Cases of infectious disease requiring In-patient treatment are accommodated at the above hospitals.

Tuberculosis Service

- (a) CHEST CLINICS.
 Hexham General Hospital—Tuesdays from 9 a.m.
 Tuberculosis Officer—Frederic L. Wollaston, M.R.C.S.

Open Sessions :

Tuesday	..	..	2—4 p.m.
Wednesday	..	..	6—7 p.m.
Friday	..	..	6—7 p.m.

(b) INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

(i) *Wooley Sanatorium.*

The standard of treatment at this hospital continues to be exceptionally high, and there is now no waiting list for admission.

(ii) *Stannington Sanatorium.*

25 children's beds are available.

Midwifery Service

(a) *Ante-Natal Care.*

Two clinics per month are held at the Haltwhistle Clinic by the local doctors.

(b) *Haltwhistle Hospital.*

The majority of the expectant mothers in the district are confined in the Haltwhistle Hospital.

The services of a visiting Gynaecologist, together with his staff, have proved of great assistance and are also available for emergency work.

Bowmer Bank Hostel, Morpeth, cares for unmarried expectant mothers.

(c) *Domiciliary Service.*

Two midwives reside at the Haltwhistle Nurses' Home, Allenbrae, Haltwhistle (Telephone 368).

Two cars are provided for the use of the Nurses in attending cases in this extensive district.

Home Help Service

The County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district.

Home Helps are available to householders where such help is required in cases of illness, but priority is given to domiciliary maternity cases.

More and more use is being made of the Service by old people.

County Orthopaedic Service

The Orthopaedic Clinic for Children is held at Hexham General Hospital every Tuesday at 10 a.m., and at Haltwhistle Child Welfare Clinic every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

An Orthopaedic Surgeon attends on the fourth Tuesday every month at Hexham General Hospital and on the second Wednesday of every month at Haltwhistle Child Welfare Clinic.

Child Welfare Service

Clinics are held at Haltwhistle Clinic every Thursday by the Child Welfare Medical Officer and the Health Visitor.

Clinics are also held at Gilsland and Halton-lea-Gate every fourth Friday.

School Dental Clinic

Clinics are held every Monday and Thursday, and Friday of alternate weeks at Haltwhistle Clinic. The Dentist visits the various schools in the district.

Dental Officer :—Mr. Bodenham.

Public Health Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory, under the Director, Dr. Messer, is located at the Newcastle General Hospital.

Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Service is run and maintained by the members of the St. John's Ambulance Division, for the Northumberland County Council, and members of the Nursing Division act as attendants when required.

During the year 1957, 2,206 cases were handled, made up as follows :—

Cases Transported by Ambulance :

Road Accidents	.. 20	Mileage Covered	.. 578
Other Accidents	.. 31	Mileage Covered	.. 560
Invalids	.. 199	Mileage Covered	.. 5,369
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	250		6,507
<i>Car Sitting Cases :</i>	.. 1,956	Mileage Covered	.. 38,903
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Total Cases	.. 2,206	Total Mileage	45,410
	<hr/>		<hr/>

The extensive use of this service is due to poor communications in the rural district and the necessity for transport from isolated places. As much as possible of the work is done by car.

Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths

Registrar : Mr. G. Luke.
Office : Westerley Terrace, Haltwhistle.
Hours : Wednesdays, Saturdays :—11 a.m. to 12 noon. Thursdays : 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

TABLE I.

The following table shows the principal vital mortality rates for the years 1948—1957.

YEAR	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	General Death Rate per 1,000 Living	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Death Rate from Respiratory T.B. per 1,000 Living
1948	16.85	14.02	24	.45
1949	18.17	16.40	30	.68
1950	15.52	13.65	60	.27
1951	14.10	12.25	37	.13
1952	14.02	13.89	38	.13
1953	14.35	12.36	—	.00
1954	13.36	11.84	43	.13
1955	14.56	13.22	39.6	.13
1956	14.27	13.2	30	.13
1957	15.20	12.71	28.57	.00

TABLE II.
INFECTIOUS DISEASE

DISEASE.	YEAR									
	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Small Pox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	19	3	1	18	15	13	5	—	29	7
Whooping Cough ..	—	14	106	2	3	44	7	21	9	40
Diphtheria ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	2	1	—
Measles ..	19	147	155	50	121	186	19	124	15	199
Pneumonia ..	2	4	3	4	5	7	1	—	—	11
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ..	—	1	1	—	9	6	—	5	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	1	—	—	8	1	—	—	9	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
TOTALS ..	45	172	268	83	157	258	36	162	54	257

TABLE III.
TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	NEW NOTIFICATIONS						DEATHS					
	Respiratory			Non- Respiratory			Respiratory			Non- Respiratory		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—64	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65—+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE IV.
NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

YEAR	Registered Births					Illegitimate Births (included in Registered Births)				
	Live Births		Still Births		Total	Live Births		Still Births		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1948	70	55	1	—	126	3	3	1	—	7
1949	71	63	2	2	138	2	4	1	1	8
1950	65	51	4	1	121	1	5	—	—	6
1951	54	53	2	1	110	2	2	—	—	4
1952	66	40	5	—	111	2	1	—	—	3
1953	58	45	1	5	109	4	—	—	—	4
1954	51	42	—	—	93	1	3	—	—	4
1955	56	45	1	5	107	1	—	—	—	1
1956	52	46	2	—	100	—	3	—	—	3
1957	51	54	2	1	108	2	3	—	—	5

TABLE V.
INFANT DEATHS.

Deaths of Infants Under 1 year of age				Deaths of Infants Under 4 weeks of age			
		M.	F.			M.	F.
Legitimate	..	2	1	Legitimate	..	2	1
Illegitimate	..	—	—	Illegitimate	..	—	—
		2	1			2	1

TABLE VI.
ANALYSIS OF DEATHS BY CAUSES

CAUSES OF DEATH.		1954		1955		1956		1957	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ..	I	—	I	—	I	—	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	I	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	I	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	3	—	2	5	2	I	I
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus	I	—	3	—	—	—	4	—
12.	Malignant, Neoplasm, Breast..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus..	—	3	—	—	—	I	—	2
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	3	4	6	3	8	I	9	2
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	—	—	I	—	—	I	—
16.	Diabetes	—	I	—	I	—	—	—	—
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	9	11	18	8	6	14	9	10
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina ..	9	9	13	5	13	10	10	7
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	—	I	—	I	—	—	I
20.	Other Heart Disease	5	7	6	5	9	4	5	2
21.	Other Circulatory Disease ..	3	2	4	4	2	3	2	3
22.	Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
23.	Pneumonia	I	—	I	I	I	—	—	—
24.	Bronchitis	3	—	3	—	2	—	—	I
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	I	2	—	—	—	—	—
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	—	I	—	—	—	—	—
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	I	I	—	—	—	—	—	I
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	—	I	I	—	I	I	I	—
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate ..	2	—	I	—	I	—	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, Child Birth. Abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Congenital Malformations ..	—	—	I	I	—	—	I	I
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	3	4	6	5	3	5	3
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents ..	—	—	2	—	I	—	3	2
34.	All other Accidents	4	I	—	3	—	I	3	2
35.	Suicide	—	—	—	—	I	—	—	—
36.	Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES		51	47	69	40	57	42	54	41

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

General

The various water supplies in the District were satisfactorily maintained throughout the year, although the yield from some of the springs dropped during the summer months.

Negotiations continued during the year with the Newcastle & Gateshead Water Company in connection with the proposed joint water scheme for South West Northumberland to serve the Urban and Rural Districts of Hexham, Haltwhistle Rural District and part of Border Rural District. As far as the Haltwhistle Rural District is concerned, it is proposed that the existing undertakings be handed over to the Newcastle & Gateshead Water Company who also propose to pipe additional water into the District by laying new mains and constructing additional service-reservoirs.

Thorngrafton Supply

This supply has been seriously affected by shortages in past years. In order to obviate the necessity for carting water to this village, it was agreed that a pump be installed to pump water from the Bardon Mill supply. This work was carried out with satisfactory results.

Gilsland Supply

In May, 1957, an additional spring was collected to augment the existing source. This resulted in an increase in the amount of water available even in dry weather from 17,000 to 30,000 gallons per day.

North Side Supply

This supply continued to show an improvement following the scraping of a section of the main in 1956. Shortages were only experienced at the high properties due to the very small difference in levels between these properties and the service reservoir.

PARISH	No. of Houses Direct from Mains	Estimated Population	No. of Houses Served by Standpipes	Estimated Population
Bardon Mill ..	63	183	6	17
Coanwood ..	49	157	6	19
Featherstone ..	43	129	8	24
Greenhead ..	54	157	9	26
Haltwhistle ..	1,136	3,521	30	93
Hartleyburn ..	69	214	19	59
Henshaw ..	143	415	24	70
Melkridge ..	44	145	11	36
Plenmellor with Whitfield ..	26	83	2	6
Slaggyford ..	57	177	1	3
Thirlwall ..	139	445	6	19
	1,823	5,626	122	372

Samples of water for bacteriological examination were taken from the following supplies and the appropriate steps were taken to eliminate contamination on the supplies where pollution was found :—

Date.	SUPPLY.	Public or Private	No. of B. Coli per 100 ml.	Result
26/2/57	Gilsland : Inlet pipe to Collecting Chamber	Private	.. Nil	Satisfactory
26/2/57	Gilsland : Collecting Chamber	Private	.. Nil	Satisfactory
26/2/57	Birch Trees : Tap	Public	.. Nil	Satisfactory
20/6/57	Thorngraston : Stand Tap	Public	.. Nil	Satisfactory
20/6/57	Bardon Mill : Stand Tap	Public	.. Nil	Satisfactory
20/6/57	Melkridge : Stand Tap	Public	.. Nil	Satisfactory
20/6/57	Birch Trees : Tap, Council Offices	Public	.. Nil	Satisfactory
9/7/57	Maiden Way : Shallow Well	Private	.. 180+	Unsatisfactory
9/7/57	Halton-Lea-Gate : Tap, The Shanters	Public	.. 1	Satisfactory
9/7/57	Slaggyford : Tap, Stone Hall	Public	.. Nil	Satisfactory
9/7/57	Slaggyford : Pipe at Trough, Eals Village	Public	.. Nil	Satisfactory
6/8/57	Maple Lodge, Bardon Mill : Tap in Kitchen	Private	.. 90	Unsatisfactory
6/8/57	Bardon Mill : Stand Tap	Public	.. 1	Satisfactory
6/8/57	Melkridge : Stand Tap	Public	.. 17	Unsatisfactory
6/8/57	North Side Supply : Tap in kitchen Moorfield	Public	.. Nil	Satisfactory
20/8/57	Painsdale Supply : Tap in kitchen	Private	.. Nil	Satisfactory
20/8/57	Painsdale Supply : Collecting Chamber	Private	.. 11	Unsatisfactory
20/8/57	Maple Lodge, Bardon Mill : Tap in Kitchen	Private	.. 30	Unsatisfactory
20/8/57	Maple Lodge : Inlet Pipe to Reservoir	Private	.. 8	Suspicious

Date.	SUPPLY.	Public or Private.		No. of B. Coli per 100 m.l	Result.
28/8/57	Moor Coattages, Haltwhistle :				
	Collecting Chamber	Private	..	35	Unsatisfactory
28/8/57	Moor Cottages :				
	Storage reservoir	Private	..	180+	Unsatisfactory
28/8/57	Moor Cottages :				
	Stand Pipe	Private	..	90	Unsatisfactory
28/8/57	Edges Green :				
	Spring	Private	..	3	Suspicious
4/9/57	Whit Shields, Bardon Mill :				
	Tap in Scullery	Private	..	50	Unsatisfactory
4/9/57	Whitfield North End Supply :				
	Tap in Whitfield School	Private	..	20	Unsatisfactory
4/9/57	Whitfield North End Supply :				
	Inlet pipe to storage reservoir	Private	..	50	Unsatisfactory
4/9/57	Birch Trees Supply :				
	Tap in Council Offices	Public	..	2	Satisfactory
25/9/57	Whitshields Farm :				
	Tap in Scullery	Private	..	160	Unsatisfactory
25/9/57	Whitfield North End Supply:				
	Tap in Whitfield School	Private	..	180+	Unsatisfactory
25/9/57	Whitfield North End Supply :				
	Inlet pipe to storage reservoir	Private	..	180+	Unsatisfactory
25/9/57	Whitfield Farm :				
	Collecting Chamber	Private	..	180+	Unsatisfactory
16/10/57	Whitfield North End Supply :				
	Inlet pipe to No. 1 tank	Private	..	17	Unsatisfactory
16/10/57	Whitfield North End Supply :				
	No. 2 Tank	Private	..	11	Unsatisfactory
16/10/57	Whitfield North End Supply :				
	Inlet to No. 3 Tank	Private	..	5	Suspicious
16/10/57	Whitfield North End Supply :				
	Inlet to No. 4 Tank	Private	..	8	Suspicious
19/11/57	Bardon Mill :				
	Farm—Spring	Private	..	Nil	Satisfactory

Date.	SUPPLY.	Public or Private.	No. of Coli per 100 ml.	Result.
19/11/57	Moor Cottages : Collecting Chamber	Private	.. 3	Suspicious
19/11/57	Moor Cottages : Tap in Scullery	Private	.. Nil	Satisfactory
19/11/57	Whitfield North End Supply : Tap in kitchen			
	Whitfield School	Private	.. 8	Suspicious
18/12/57	Whitfield North End Supply : Tap in Kitchen			
	Whitfield School	Private	.. 5	Suspicious
18/12/57	Gilsland Supply : Tap in kitchen			
	Quarry House, Greenhead	Public	.. Nil	Satisfactory
18/12/57	Moor Cottages : Tap in kitchen	Private	.. Nil	Satisfactory
18/12/57	Moor Cottages : Stand Tap	Private	.. Nil	Satisfactory

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat

Four private slaughterhouses are operating in the District—3 in Haltwhistle and 1 in Gilsland.

Most of the meat inspection is carried out outside normal working hours, as slaughtering is usually done during the evenings.

The slaughterhouses have been well maintained and no nuisance has arisen in connection with the premises.

The quality of the animals killed has been excellent and the number of casualty animals dealt with has been very low.

The arrangements for the disposal of condemned meat and offal have been satisfactory.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle exclud'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	497	7	4	1,608	163	—
Number Inspected	497	7	4	1,608	163	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</i>						
Whole Carcases condemned	1	—	—	2	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	121	3	—	30	6	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	24.55	42.86	—	1.99	3.68	—
<i>Tuberculosis Only :</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	4	1	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis .. .. .	.80	14.28	—	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis :</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following table shows the amount of meat and other foods condemned during the year :—

UNSOUND FOOD.	Surrendered	Seized	Legal Proceedings
Beef (Home Killed) Stones	49	—	—
Beef (Imported) „	—	—	—
Mutton (Home Killed) „	6	—	—
Mutton (Imported) „	—	—	—
Pork (Home Killed) „	—	—	—
Pork (Imported) „	—	—	—
Game Lbs.	—	—	—
Poultry „	—	—	—
Fish „	—	—	—
Fruit Cases	—	—	—
Canned Goods Tins	59	—	—
Bacon Lbs.	—	—	—
Cheese „	—	—	—
Butter „	1	—	—
Lard „	—	—	—
Eggs, Frozen	—	—	—
Cooked Ham (Canned) „	1	—	—
Sausages „	—	—	—
Offal (Home Killed) Stones	248	—	—

Milk and Dairies

Number of Distributors of Milk registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949—1954 7

Number Licensed for the Sale of Pasteurised Milk under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954 3

Ice Cream

Number of Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the manufacture of Ice Cream 2

Number of Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of pre-packed Ice Cream 9

Food Hygiene Regulations

Inspections of food premises were made during the year and generally the occupiers of such premises co-operated readily in complying with the various requirements.

Food Premises

The following shows the number of food premises, by type of business in the District :—

Butchers	..	..	..	7
Bakehouses		..	..	4
Cafes ..	..	..	..	2
Confectioners		..	..	3
Fishmongers ..	..	..	..	2
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	1
General Stores	..	..	..	19
Greengrocers		..	..	4
Grocers	..	..	..	5
Hotels	..	..	..	8

HOUSING

The following table shows the number of houses completed during the year :—

New Houses completed during the Year.		With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a)	By Local Authority	44	—	44
(b)	By any other Housing Authority	—	—	—
(c)	By private persons ..	—	3	3

1. ACTION WITH REGARD TO UNFIT HOUSES.

A. Houses Demolished.

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Person	Families
In Clearance Areas.			
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	—	4	1
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc.	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
Not in Clearance Areas.			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 17(1) H.A. 57.. .. .	—	23	6
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	—	19	7
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been under local Acts	—	—	—
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	—	—	—
B. Unfit Houses Closed.			
	Number		
(8) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 ..	22	72	25
(9) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, H.A. 1957	—	—	—
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, H.A. 1957 ..	1	4	1
Other houses closed not included above	8	18	6

C. Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by Local Authority	39	—
(12) After formal notice under :		
(a) Public Health Acts .. .	—	—
(b) Secs. 9 & 16 Housing Act, 57 ..	—	—
(13) Under Sec. 24, Housing Act, 1957 ..	2	—

2. FAMILIES REHOUSED DURING 1957.

Slum Clearance	..	..	..	..	40
Without Separate Homes	..	..	..	..	7
With Separate Homes	..	..	..	..	11
From Council Houses (Exchanges etc.)	..	..	..	..	5
Overcrowded Abated :					
Statutory	..	..	..	..	7
Moral	..	..	..	..	4
Number of Outstanding applications for Council Houses on the Authorities list at year end					166

3. LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES.

Total Number of Houses owned by Local Authority	449
Number of Temporary Dwellings included above	—

4. HOUSING ACT, 1949—IMPROVEMENT GRANTS^t

	No. of Separate Houses
Applications submitted to Local Authority	.. 26
Applications rejected —
Applications approved	.. .. .. 26
Total number of applications approved since the inception of the scheme	.. .. .. 142
No. of houses not included above, approved for grants under the Hill Farm & Livestock Rearing Acts, 1946-54	.. .. .. 3

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse collection service, carried out by direct labour, has operated satisfactorily during the year.

Collections are made from most of the reasonably accessible properties in the District, twice weekly in Haltwhistle, and once per week in the remainder of the area. The total number of houses covered is approximately 2,028.

One 7 cubic yard Karrier Bantam Vehicle with driver and two loaders is used in Haltwhistle and Plenmellor, and a 7 cubic yard Bedford vehicle with driver and one loader covers the more outlying parts of the district.

Sanitary pails are collected by the refuse collection staff from various parts of the District still without adequate sewerage systems. This unpleasant task is carried out as efficiently as possible, but every effort should be made for the provision of sewerage systems in the villages at present without these.

Three refuse tips are in use and these have been satisfactorily maintained by the Tip attendant who also acts as a relief driver and Rodent Operator.

RODENT CONTROL
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACTS, 1949

Work under this heading proceeded during the year.

A part-time Rodent Operator is employed but, by force of circumstances a considerable part of this employee's time is spent on duties connected with refuse collection and disposal.

During the year disinfestation treatments have been carried out by the Rodent Operator on Council Properties and private houses.

The report as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is given in the following table :—

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				(5) Agri- cultural
	NON-AGRICULTURAL				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (in. Council Houses)	(3) All other (incl. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
Number of Properties in Local Authority's Dist.	14	2,082	145	2,241	302
Number of properties in- spected as a result of :-					
(a) Notification ..	—	20	5	25	—
(b) Survey under the Act	14	117	20	151	12
(c) Otherwise (<i>e.g.</i> when visited primarily for some other purpose	—	108	129	237	54
Total inspections carried out including re-inspect- ions	58	378	184	620	86
Number of properties in- spected which were found to be infested by :					
Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Rats Minor ..	5	24	4	33	12
Major ..	—	—	1	1	—
(b) Mice Minor ..	—	10	—	10	—
Number of infested prop- erties treated by the Local Authority ..	5	34	1	40	—
Total treatments carried out including re-treat- ments	17	43	8	68	—
Number of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act :—					
(a) Treatment ..	—	—	4	4	12
(b) Structural Work (<i>i.e.</i> , Proofing) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a Notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Proceedings ..	—	—	—	—	—
Number of ' Block ' con- trol Schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

PREMISES	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are to be enforced by Local Authority ..	2	8	—	—
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	32	32	7	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) ..	2	8	—	—
TOTAL	36	48	7	—

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) —	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	7	5	—	7	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	7	5	—	7	—

WATER SUPPLY

Sources closed or discontinued	1	No. of Houses	..	..	1
New Service provided :—					
(a) By Local Authority	44	No. of Houses	..	..	44
(b) By Private Owner	3	No. of Houses	..	..	3

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Housing Inspections	..	..	..	..	118
Applications for Council Houses	..	..	..	..	56
Housing Act, 1949 (Improvement Grants)	..	..	..	..	130
Housing General	..	..	..	..	27
Sanitary Accommodation	..	..	..	..	110
Drainage	..	..	..	..	145
Water Supply	..	..	..	..	129
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	21
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	33
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	..	..	..	46
Factories	..	..	..	..	48
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	81
Infectious Disease	..	..	..	..	7
Nuisances	17
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	245
Miscellaneous	21
TOTAL					1,234

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